State of California • Department of Transportation



## **News Release**

12-039

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Caltrans Launches New Thruway Bus Service to Popular Desert Destinations

**SACRAMENTO** – Today, Caltrans announced the expansion of its Amtrak California Pacific Surfliner® service to the Inland Empire and Coachella Valley via Amtrak Thruway Bus. This new, dedicated bus service connects the Fullerton train station and several prime destinations, including Riverside, Cabazon, Palm Springs, Palm Desert, La Quinta and Indio.

"Caltrans has now connected its Pacific Surfliner train passengers with a convenient way to travel to popular desert entertainment, shopping and recreation destinations," said Acting Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "We encourage people to consider this alternative when traveling to the Inland Empire and Coachella Valley."

Thruway Bus service is provided exclusively to train passengers as an extension of Amtrak California's rail service seven days a week.

For travel information and to book your next trip, visit <a href="mailto:AmtrakCalifornia.com">AmtrakCalifornia.com</a>, or call 1-800-USA-RAIL.

About Amtrak California - The State of California funds three of the busiest state-supported intercity passenger rail services in the nation: the Pacific Surfliner, San Joaquin, and Capitol Corridor. Contributing more than \$90 million annually in state operating assistance, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the largest passenger rail capital assistance program in the country. Under the Amtrak California banner, Caltrans manages the Pacific Surfliner and San Joaquin Corridors. Visit us at <a href="mailto:AmtrakCalifornia.com">AmtrakCalifornia.com</a>; join us on Facebook at <a href="mailto:Facebook.com/amtrakcalifornia">Facebook.com/amtrakcalifornia</a>; or follow us on Twitter at <a href="mailto:Twitter.com/Amtrak\_CA">Twitter.com/Amtrak\_CA</a>. Amtrak California is a Caltrans and Amtrak partnership.

**About Amtrak**® - Celebrating 40 years of dedicated service as America's Railroad®, Amtrak is the nation's intercity passenger rail provider and its only high-speed rail operator. A record 30.2 million passengers traveled on Amtrak in FY 2011 on more than 300 daily trains - at speeds up to 150 mph (241 kph) - that connect 46 states, the District of Columbia and three Canadian Provinces. Amtrak operates trains in partnership with 15 states and four commuter rail agencies. Enjoy the journey<sup>sm</sup> at Amtrak.com or call 800-USA-RAIL for schedules, fares and more information. Join us on Facebook.com/Amtrak and follow us at Twitter.com/Amtrak.